

Message Text

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ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
INRE-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 NSAE-00
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O 210012Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6737

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 01402

DEPT. PASS DOE FOR FERC COMMISSIONER SMITH, LES GOLDMAN
AND JOHN ADGER

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ENRG, CA
SUBJECT: CAPITAL COST OF NORTHERN GAS PIPELINE

REF: A. STATE 69738, B. PLACKE TELECONS WITH FERC
COMMISSIONER SMITH AND BARBIAN (EB/FSE)

1. EMBASSY DISCUSSED MARCH 20 WITH NEB MEMBER GEOFFREY
EDGE U.S. PROPOSED LANGUAGE FOR EXCHANGE OF NOTES ON
ADDENDUM TO ANNEX III OF ALASKA GAS PIPELINE AGREEMENT
AND U.S. INTENT TO RECORD IN SIDE LETTER ITS UNDERSTANDING
ABOUT AMOUNT AND ALLOCATION AMONG ZONES OF MONITORING
COSTS.

2. ON BASIS OF THAT DISCUSSION AND REFERENCED TELECONS,
FOLLOWING ARE REVISED TEXTS:

A) NOTE FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA:

CHANGE ADDENDUM TO ANNEX III TO DELETE "SHALL BE DEEMED
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TO" FROM FIRST SENTENCE AND INCLUDE IN SECOND SENTENCE
AS FOLLOWS: "THE ANNEX III CAPITAL COSTS SHALL ALSO BE
DEEMED TO INCLUDE AN ALLOWANCE ON AND RECOVERY OF
REGULATORY MONITORING COSTS".

THERE ARE NO OTHER SUGGESTED REVISIONS TO NOTE.

B) U.S. NOTE IN REPLY: NO CHANGES.

C) U.S. SIDE LETTER TO EXCHANGE OF NOTES:

"IN CONNECTION WITH THE AGREEMENT CONCLUDED TODAY TO EFFECT A TECHNICAL ADDENDUM TO ANNEX III OF THE AGREEMENT ON PRINCIPLES APPLICABLE TO A NORTHERN NATURAL GAS PIPELINE, I WISH TO EXPRESS TWO UNDERSTANDINGS OF THE U.S. SIDE:

"FIRST, WE UNDERSTAND THAT THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 11.A) OF THE AGREEMENT APPLY WITH RESPECT TO MONITORING CHARGES, THAT IS, THAT CONSULTATION WOULD TAKE PLACE AT THE REQUEST OF EITHER GOVERNMENT TO CONSIDER THE LEVEL OF SUCH CHARGES;

"SECOND, WE UNDERSTAND THAT SUCH MONITORING CHARGES WOULD, INsofar AS POSSIBLE, BE CHARGED PROPORTIONATE TO CAPITAL COSTS IN THE ZONES IN WHICH THEY ARE INCURRED, WITH ANY CHARGES UNATTRIBUTABLE BY ZONE ALLOCATED ON A BASIS ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH GOVERNMENTS.

"THE UNITED STATES WILL INVOKE CONSULTATIONS UNDER SECTION 11.A) OF THE AGREEMENT IF THE MONITORING CHARGES SHOULD SIGNIFICANTLY EXCEED .85 PERCENT (OR APPROXIMATELY DOLS 36 MILLION) OF THE FILED CAPITAL COSTS GIVEN IN
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ANNEX III AS AMENDED OR IF SUCH MONITORING CHARGES ARE NOT ALLOCATED AMONG ZONES AS DESCRIBED ABOVE."

3. UPON CONFIRMATION OF AGREEMENT TO REVISED LANGUAGE BY CONCERNED WASHINGTON AGENCIES, EMBASSY WILL REVIEW AGAIN WITH EDGE. ENDERS

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Message Attributes

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